

June 30, 2003  
6:00 P.M.  
City Hall Commission Room

The Commissioners of the City of Horton met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 30, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Room at City Hall.

Pastor Tom Stone of the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ opened the meeting with prayer.

Present: Mayor White, Commissioners Smith, Stirton, Lentz and McClain.

The minutes of the June 2, 2003 regular meeting and the June 21, 2003 special meeting were approved as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Lentz to approve appropriation ordinance #2720 (Payroll) in the amount of \$34,949.51. Seconded by Commissioner Stirton. All aye. Motion by Commissioner Lentz to approve appropriation ordinance #2721 (Disbursements) in the amount of \$73,029.16. All aye. Motion by Commissioner Stirton to approve appropriation ordinance #2722 (Payroll) in the amount of \$35,731.02. Seconded by Commissioner Lentz. All aye. Motion by Commissioner McClain to approve appropriation ordinance #2723 (Disbursements) in the amount of \$124,450.31. Seconded by Commissioner Lentz. All aye. Some questions on the financial reports were answered by the City Clerk and it was requested that summary reports be given to the Commission instead of the detailed reports.

#### **Bill Willis—E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street**

Mr. Willis appeared to complain about the condition of East 8<sup>th</sup> Street. He advised that there are several dips and holes in the road and that the concrete part of the street is being chipped off on the corners because of the truck traffic. He also was concerned about the drop off on both ends of the west side of the bridge on 8<sup>th</sup> Street. He advised that the south end had been repaired but not the north end. It was decided that Rex West would fix the south end of the bridge this week and Commissioner McClain will get with Bill Willis and Rex West to determine what needs to be done on the section where the railroad tracks used to cross the road.

#### **Appointment of KMEA Board Members**

Motion by Commissioner Smith to appoint Bill Delzeit as the Resident Board Member and James Martin as the Alternate Board Member to the KMEA Board. Seconded by Commissioner Lentz. All aye.

#### **Power Outages**

Mr. Leighton reported the electric department is still adjusting the new equipment to the distribution system. There is a possibility that a study will be needed to determine the problems created by installing the new equipment with the old distribution system. Some funds may be left after the generation project is completed and these could be used to fund a study. The commission requested that Ken Fairchild come to the next meeting to explain the problems.

#### **Skateboard Park**

Mr. Leighton reported that a modular skateboard park system might be the best option. He is still waiting for information from a company on costs. The City needs to look at location, funding and who will operate the park. Commissioner Lentz stated that the youth want to raise funds. He would like the City to build them a concrete slab and they will fund the ramps. Commissioner Smith requested that Mr. Leighton give the youth a set of guidelines for their planning process. It was suggested that the park could be put at Mission Lake. Commissioner Lentz also noted that another basketball court is needed and the volleyball courts need to be redone.

### **Update on the Wastewater Plant**

The analysis reports for the past few months have shown a high ammonia reading. The employees have been hauling waste and the last report showed ammonia levels where they should be. The engineer, Pat Cox, will be at the next meeting. Mayor White stated he would like to know the capacity that the original plans and specifications allowed.

### **Blue Building**

A new evaporative cooler has been purchased to cool the west end of the blue building for the fair. Mr. Leighton still needs to check on ceiling ventilation. It was suggested that the City might be able to rent large fans from Central Auto.

### **Firing Range Advisory Board**

The City has received five applications for the Advisory Board. The Commission will review the applications at the next meeting.

Mayor White reported that the City appreciated the Kickapoo Tribe and Casino getting Lee Greenwood, a country western singer, to try out the shooting range. The City crews and the City Administrator did a good job of getting things ready in time.

### **Dam Inspection and Insurance**

Mr. Leighton is awaiting a call back from FEMA concerning the options available for insuring the Mission Lake Dam. The inspection has been completed and it looks like the repairs needed are cosmetic and cursory.

### **City Survey**

Mr. Leighton advised that he was waiting to hear from David Ross on any suggestions he might have for the survey. Commissioner Smith said he would talk with Mr. Ross.

### **Welcome Signs and Motto**

The welcome signs are up and several people have commented favorably about them. Commissioner Smith suggested that the words "established 1886" be put on the signs.

The issue of a motto or slogan will be brought up at the next town meeting on August 2.

Landscaping around the posts on the signs needs to be done. It was suggested that the City check with the horticulture class at the High School to see if they would be interested in doing this as a project.

### **Library Update**

The street department repaired the guttering and the drainage around the building. Mayor White and City Administrator, Mike Leighton, will attend the next Library Board meeting and see when they will be doing the interior painting.

### **Update on K-20 Meeting**

Those who attended the meeting asked the state to widen K-20 Highway.

### **Discussion of Town Meeting**

Mayor White reported that there was good discussion, input and suggestions from the citizens during the meeting held on June 21 at the Senior Citizens Center. It was decided to have another meeting on August 2. Commissioner Smith requested that an invitation to the meeting be sent out randomly to one out of every 10 utility customer with their utility bill.

### **Website**

A committee has been formed to work on a website. This committee will be meeting soon and look at options.

### **Building Availability Survey**

Mr. Leighton stated he would like to see HIDC take on this project. It will be presented to them at their next meeting and reported back to the Commission on the response.

### **CAT Survey**

Mayor White and Commissioner Smith will talk with Mr. Fanning to get guidance on getting a steering committee together for this project.

### **Kickapoo Relations**

It was noted that the Golden Eagle Casino will have its fireworks display on the July 3, and the Sac & Fox Casino will hold theirs on July 5. The City's display will be held at Mission Lake on July 4. There will be a DJ playing music during the fireworks. It was noted that Sherry Stirton, owner of Lakeside Fireworks, donated \$150 worth of fireworks for the display in addition to what the Horton Lion's Club is providing.

### **Brown County Fair**

It was reported that the City is ready for the fair. The lights at the Blue Building and the Civic Center will be checked.

### **Vandalism Update**

There were three adults arrested in connection with the vandalism of the past months. The Commission wanted to recognize the Police Department for a good job in investigations.

### **Swimming Pool Drains**

A recent letter to the editor was brought up concerning the dangers that can arise from swimming pool drains that have constant suction. It was noted that the City's pool does not have this potential problem as the suction pipes are very small and are placed inconspicuously around the edge of the pool and are hard to get to. Mr. Leighton wrote a reply to the newspaper to alleviate any concerns that citizens may have about this matter.

### **City Administrator's Agenda**

Mr. Leighton reported that a change order on the water project is forthcoming. This change order involves the drilling technique.

Commissioner Lentz inquired if anything had been done about covering the solid contacts basin at the water plant. Mr. Leighton will call KRWA to get an update.

### **Commissioner's Agenda**

### **Commissioner Smith**

Commissioner Smith referred to a letter written by Tim Keck, City Attorney, dealing with charges for his services. It was decided to have Mr. Keck present when an executive session is going to be called. It was suggested that if something comes up during a meeting that would need Mr. Keck's assistance that it be tabled to the next meeting so that he may attend.

Commissioner Smith inquired about the study of fees on camping. Mr. Leighton advised the figures would be ready by budget time. After getting the study results, the Commission will meet with the Park Board.

Commissioner Smith requested that the City look into establishing a foundation for donations. He would like to know what the legal costs would be and what the time frame would be.

### **Commissioner Stirton**

Commissioner Stirton thanked the commissioners for their patience during his absences during the baseball season.

Commissioner Stirton inquired about putting the pop machines back in the hallway at City Hall. Mr. Leighton did not want to do that because it ruins the looks of the building. Commissioner Smith suggested putting pop in the refrigerator at City Hall and providing it to the employees. It was decided to try this for a 3-month period to determine the cost to the City.

### **Commissioner Lentz**

Commissioner Lentz emphasized that the employee need to get the Little Lake and Mission Lake ready for July 4.

### **Commissioner McClain**

Commissioner McClain wanted to see if the City could rent a mosquito sprayer to spray the City areas since the West Nile Virus is so prevalent. It will be rented after July 4.

Mr. Leighton was instructed to write a letter to the Brown County Commissioners to request a tire amnesty.

Commissioner McClain felt that a name for the shooting range is needed. He would like to have suggestions by the next meeting. He feels it should honor the veterans. It was decided that the name could be Horton Sports Shooting Range and then have it dedicated to the veterans.

Laura Cowart had approached a Commissioner about the ramps at the City Hall and the Library not being ADA compliant. It was reaffirmed that any new construction that the City does will be ADA compliant.

Commissioner McClain asked about the Hazardous Mitigation Plan. Mr. Leighton will be working on this plan.

### **Mayor White**

Mayor White read a letter he received from Pat Roberts concerning welfare reform. This was in response to the letter sent by the Commission.

Mayor White reported that several citizens were requesting to be able to buy shirts with the elephant logo on them. It was decided that the City could take orders from the citizens and then order the shirts.

Mayor White reported that he and Mr. Leighton had attended a luncheon at Hiawatha and the Governor spoke. The meeting was well attended.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Candy Schmitt, City Clerk

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Dale A. White, Mayor